

Table 1. Summary of hypotheses, corresponding specific predictions, and results.

| Hypotheses & Specific Predictions   | Prediction supported? |      |      |       | Results      |
|---|-----------------------|------|------|-------|--------------|
|   | Overall               | 1966 | 1977 | 1999  |              |
| <b>Tree size and microenvironment</b>   |                       |      |      |       |              |
| <i>Taller trees have lower Rt.</i><br>Rt decreases with height (H).   | ~yes                  | ~yes | ~yes | ~yes  | Tables 5, S5 |
| <i>Trees with more exposed crowns have lower Rt.</i><br>Accounting for H, dominant trees have lowest Rt.  | ~no**                 | ~no  | ~yes | ~no   | Tables 5, S5 |
| <i>Small trees (lower root volume) in drier microhabitats have lower Rt.</i><br>There is a negative interactive effect between H and topographic wetness index. | ~no                   | ~no  | ~no  | ~no   | Tables 5, S5 |
| <b>Species traits</b>   |                       |      |      |       |              |
| <i>Species' traits—particularly leaf hydraulic traits—predict Rt.</i><br>Wood density correlates (positively or negatively) to Rt.                              | -                     | -    | -    | -     | Tables 4, S4 |
| Leaf mass per area correlates positively to Rt.   | -                     | -    | -    | -     | Tables 4, S4 |
| Ring-porous species have higher Rt than diffuse- or semi-ring- porous.  | -                     | yes* | **   | yes   | Tables 4, S4 |
| Percent loss leaf area upon desiccation correlates negatively with Rt.  | ~yes                  | ~yes | ~*   | (yes) | Tables 5, S5 |
| Water potential at turgor loss correlates negatively with Rt.   | ~(yes)                | -    | ~yes | (yes) | Tables 5, S5 |

Parentheses indicate that the prediction was supported by one but not all of the top full models (Table 5). Dash symbols indicate that the response was not significant, or not represented in any of the top full models. Asterisks indicate that the  $Rt_{ARIMA}$  model yielded a different result: \*different significance in  $Rt_{ARIMA}$  model \*\* $Rt_{ARIMA}$  model had a significant trend in the opposite direction of the  $Rt$  model (if significant) or the prediction (if no significant trend in  $Rt$  model).

**TILDAS (~) indicate that we don't currently have a (full) test of this prediction (issue 99)**

Table 2. Summary of dependent and independent variables examined here, along with units, definitions, and sample sizes.

| variable                     | symbol       | units              | description  |  | category  | n*                      |
|------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|--|--|---|-------------------------|
| <b>Dependent variables</b>   |              |                    |  |  |   |                         |
| drought resistance           | $Rt$         | -                  | ratio of growth during drought year to mean growth of the 5 years prior. |  | -   | 1623                    |
|                              | $Rt_{ARIMA}$ | -                  | ratio of growth during drought year to growth predicted by ARIMA model.  |  | -   | 1654                    |
| <b>Independent variables</b> |              |                    |  |  |   |                         |
| drought year                 | $Y$          | -                  | year of drought  |  | 1966<br>1977<br>1999  | 513<br>543<br>567       |
| <i>tree size</i>             |              |                    |  |  |   |                         |
| diameter breast height       | $DBH$        | cm                 | DBH in drought year  |  | -   | all                     |
| height                       | $H$          | m                  | estimated H in drought year  |  | -   | all                     |
| <i>microhabitat</i>          |              |                    |  |  |   |                         |
| crown position               |              | -                  | 2018 crown position  |  | dominant (D)<br>co-dominant (C)<br>intermediate (I)<br>suppressed (S) | 31<br>231<br>224<br>101 |
| topographic wetness index    | $TWI$        | -                  | steady-state wetness index based on slope and upstream contributing area |  | -   | all                     |
| <i>species' traits</i>       |              |                    |  |  |   |                         |
| wood density                 | $WD$         | $\text{g cm}^{-3}$ | dry mass of a unit volume of fresh wood                                  |  | -   | all                     |
| leaf mass per area           | $LMA$        | $\text{kg m}^{-2}$ | ratio of leaf dry mass to fresh leaf area                                |  | -   | all                     |
| xylem porosity               |              | -                  | vessel arrangement in xylem  |  | ring (R)<br>semi-ring (SR)<br>diffuse (D)                             | 408<br>31<br>178        |
| turgor loss point            | $\pi_{tlp}$  | MPa                | water potential at which leaves wilt                                     |  | -   | all                     |
| percent loss area            | $PLA_{dry}$  | %                  | percent loss of leaf area upon dessication                               |  | -   | all                     |

\*Sample sizes are prior to removal of outliers. Prior to analysis, we discarded # records with  $Rt > 2$  and # records with  $Rt_{ARIMA} > 2$ .

Table 3. Overview of analyzed species, listed in order of their relative contributions to woody stem productivity ( $ANPP_{stem}$ ) in the plot, along with numbers and sizes sampled, and species traits. Variable abbreviations are as in Table 2.

| species                        | % $ANPP_{stem}$ | n trees | DBH (cm) |              | species traits (mean +/- sd) |                        |                |                   |                  |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---------|----------|--------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------|
|                                |                 |         | mean     | range        | $WD$ ( $g\ cm^{-3}$ )        | $LMA$ ( $g\ cm^{-2}$ ) | xylem porosity | $\pi_{tlp}$ (Mpa) | $PLA$ (%)        |
| Liriodendron tulipifera (LITU) | 47.1            | 98      | 368.54   | 100 - 1004   | $0.4 \pm 0.03$               | $46.92 \pm 12.38$      | diffuse        | $-1.92 \pm 0.17$  | $19.56 \pm 2.06$ |
| Quercus alba (QUAL)            | 10.7            | 61      | 471.51   | 114 - 791    | $0.61 \pm 0.02$              | $75.8 \pm 11.05$       | ring           | $-2.58 \pm 0.08$  | $8.52 \pm 0.37$  |
| Quercus rubra (QURU)           | 10.1            | 69      | 548.79   | 110.7 - 1480 | $0.62 \pm 0.02$              | $71.13 \pm 6.70$       | ring           | $-2.64 \pm 0.28$  | $11.01 \pm 0.84$ |
| Quercus velutina (QUVE)        | 7.8             | 77      | 541.38   | 160.2 - 1142 | $0.65 \pm 0.04$              | $48.69 \pm 3.30$       | ring           | $-2.39 \pm 0.15$  | $13.42 \pm 0.84$ |
| Quercus montana (QUPR)         | 4.8             | 59      | 422.48   | 105 - 872    | $0.61 \pm 0.01$              | $71.77 \pm 40.17$      | ring           | $-2.36 \pm 0.09$  | $11.75 \pm 1.37$ |
| Fraxinus americana (FRAM)      | 3.8             | 62      | 353.63   | 64 - 947.3   | $0.56 \pm 0.01$              | $43.28 \pm 4.78$       | ring           | $-2.1 \pm 0.36$   | $13.06 \pm 1.06$ |
| Carya glabra (CAGL)            | 3.7             | 31      | 313.89   | 98 - 985     | $0.62 \pm 0.04$              | $42.76 \pm 0.94$       | ring           | $-2.13 \pm 0.50$  | $21.09 \pm 5.48$ |
| Juglans nigra (JUNI)           | 2.1             | 31      | 481.42   | 242 - 870    | $1.09 \pm 0.09$              | $72.13 \pm 7.10$       | semi-ring*     | $-2.76 \pm 0.21$  | $24.64 \pm 8.72$ |
| Carya cordiformis (CACO)       | 2.0             | 13      | 271.87   | 107 - 615    | $0.83 \pm 0.10$              | $45.86 \pm 15.60$      | ring           | $-2.13 \pm 0.45$  | $17.22 \pm 2.25$ |
| Carya tomentosa (CATO)         | 2.0             | 13      | 209.74   | 121 - 322.1  | 0.83                         | 45.36                  | ring           | -2.2              | 16.56            |
| Fagus grandifolia (FAGR)       | 1.5             | 80      | 235.11   | 112 - 1072   | $0.62 \pm 0.03$              | $30.68 \pm 4.94$       | diffuse        | -2.57             | $9.45 \pm 1.25$  |
| Carya ovalis (CAOVL)           | 1.1             | 23      | 352.87   | 149 - 660    | $0.96 \pm 0.33$              | $47.6 \pm 3.95$        | ring           | $-2.48 \pm 0.04$  | $14.8 \pm 6.34$  |

\* Semi-ring porosity is intermediate between ring and diffuse. We group it with diffuse-porous species for more even division of species between categories.

Table 4. Individual tests of species traits as drivers of drought resistance ( $Rt$ ).

| variable       | category | all droughts  |              | 1966          |              | 1977          |              | 1999          |              |
|----------------|----------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
|                |          | $\Delta AICc$ | coefficients | $\Delta AICc$ | coefficients | $\Delta AICc$ | coefficients | $\Delta AICc$ | coefficients |
| xylem porosity | R        | -4.53         | 0.0680       | 2.44**        | 0.190        | 1.68*         | -0.151       | 4.01**        | 0.1580       |
|                | D/SR     | NA            | 0.0000       |               | 0.000        |               | 0.000        |               | 0.0000       |
| <i>PLA</i>     |          | -2.85         | -0.0140      | 8.97**        | -0.025       | -0.27         | -0.010       | -0.91         | -0.0070      |
| <i>LMA</i>     |          | -12.76        | 0.0001       | -1.9          | 0.001        | -1.66         | -0.002       | -2.07         | 0.0001       |
| $\pi_{ulp}$    |          | -2.22         | -0.1620      | -1.78         | -0.093       | 1.27*         | -0.251       | -0.52         | -0.1530      |
| <i>WD</i>      |          | -3.97         | -0.0380      | -1.17         | -0.219       | -1.51         | -0.151       | 0.44          | 0.2650       |

Variable abbreviations are as in Table 2.  $\Delta AICc$  is the AICc of a model excluding the trait minus that of the model including it.

\* $\Delta AICc > 1$ : variable meets  $\Delta AICc$  criterion for inclusion in full model

\*\* $\Delta AICc > 2$ : variable is considered significant as an individual predictor (and meets  $\Delta AICc$  criterion for inclusion in full model)

Table 5. Summary of top full models for each drought instance.

| drought     | $\Delta AICc$ | $R^2$       | Intercept    | $\ln[H]$      | $\ln[TWI]$    | $\ln[H] * \ln[TWI]$ | crown position |          |               |               | $PLA$         | $\pi_{llp}$   |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------|----------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
|             |               |             |              |               |               |                     | D              | C        | I             | S             |               |               |
| <b>all</b>  | <b>0.000</b>  | <b>0.11</b> | <b>1.733</b> | <b>-0.245</b> | <b>-0.335</b> | <b>0.088</b>        | <b>-0.036</b>  | <b>0</b> | <b>-0.039</b> | <b>-0.056</b> | <b>-0.014</b> | <b>-</b>      |
| <b>1966</b> | <b>0.000</b>  | <b>0.26</b> | <b>2.265</b> | <b>-0.349</b> | <b>-0.336</b> | <b>0.111</b>        | <b>-0.041</b>  | <b>0</b> | <b>0.016</b>  | <b>-0.062</b> | <b>-0.024</b> | <b>-</b>      |
| <b>1977</b> | <b>0.000</b>  | <b>0.23</b> | <b>0.902</b> | <b>-0.152</b> | <b>-0.358</b> | <b>0.078</b>        | <b>-0.069</b>  | <b>0</b> | <b>-0.029</b> | <b>0.035</b>  | <b>-</b>      | <b>-0.253</b> |
| <b>1999</b> | <b>0.000</b>  | <b>0.21</b> | <b>1.152</b> | <b>-0.141</b> | <b>-0.229</b> | <b>0.046</b>        | <b>0.001</b>   | <b>0</b> | <b>-0.075</b> | <b>-0.088</b> | <b>-</b>      | <b>-0.151</b> |
|             | 0.385         | 0.21        | 1.610        | -0.141        | -0.227        | 0.046               | -0.001         | 0        | -0.077        | -0.091        | -0.007        | -             |

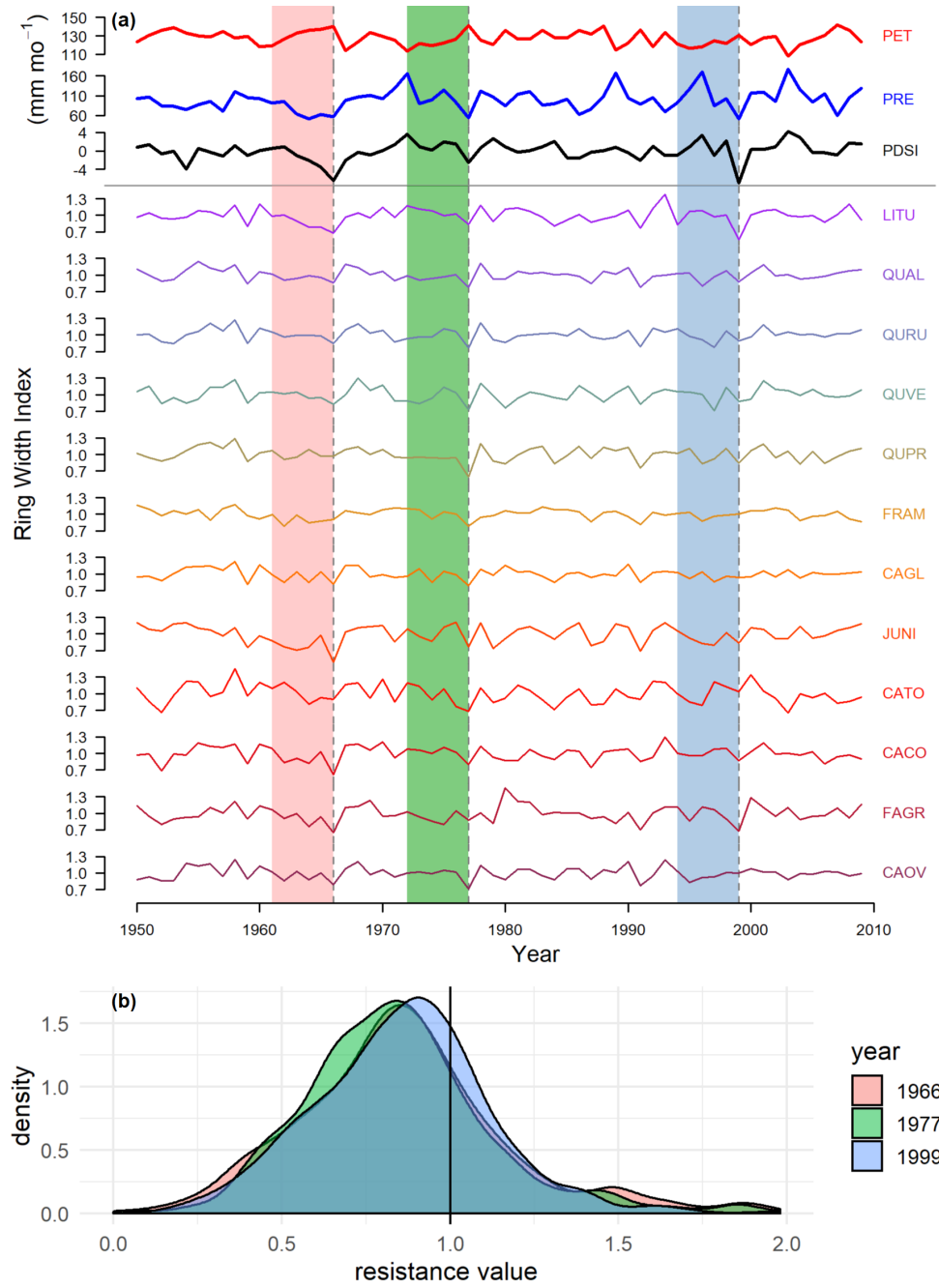
Models are ranked by AICc. Shown are all models whose AICc value falls within 1.0 ( $\Delta AICc < 1$ ) of the best model (bold).

## Figure Legends

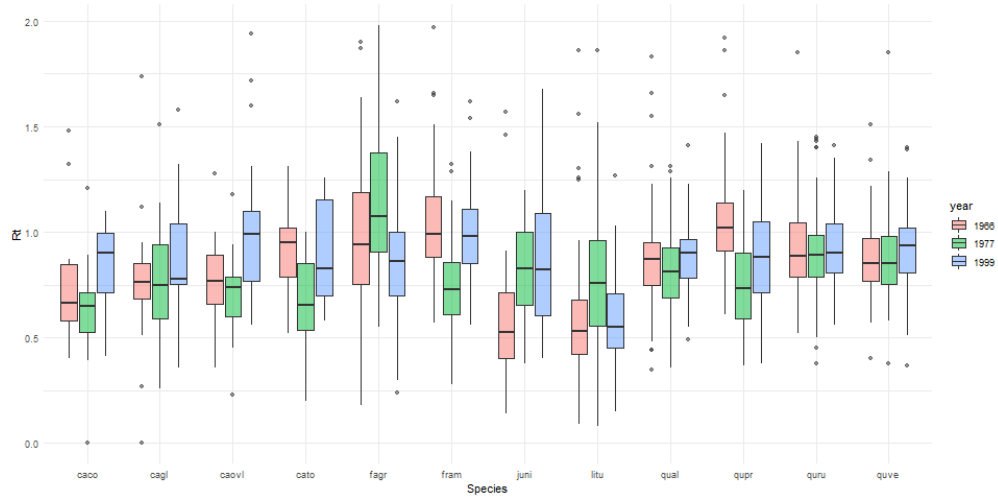
**Figure 1. Climate and species-level growth responses over our study period, highlighting the three focal droughts (a) and community-wide responses** Time series plot (a) shows peak growing season (May-August) climate conditions and residual chronologies for each species (see Table 3 for codes). PET and PRE data were obtained from the Climatic Research Unit high-resolution gridded dataset (CRU TS v.4.01; Harris et al. 2014). Focal droughts are indicated by dashed lines, and shading indicates the pre-drought period used in calculations of the resistance metric. Figure modified from Helcoski *et al.* (2019). Density plots (b) show the distribution of resistance values for each drought.

**Figure 2. Drought resistance,  $R_t$ , across species for the three focal droughts.** Drought are color coded as in Fig. 1. Species codes are given in Table 3.

**Figure 3. Height profiles in growing season climatic conditions and tree heights by crown position** Shown are averages ( $\pm$  SD) of daily maxima and minima of (a) wind speed, (b) relative humidity ( $RH$ ), and (c) air temperature ( $T_{air}$ ) averaged over each month of the peak growing season (May-August) from 2016-2018. In these plots, heights are slightly offset for visualization purposes. Also shown is (d) 2018 tree heights by canopy position (see Table 2 for codes). In all plots, the dashed horizontal line indicates the 95th percentile of tree heights in the ForestGEO plot.

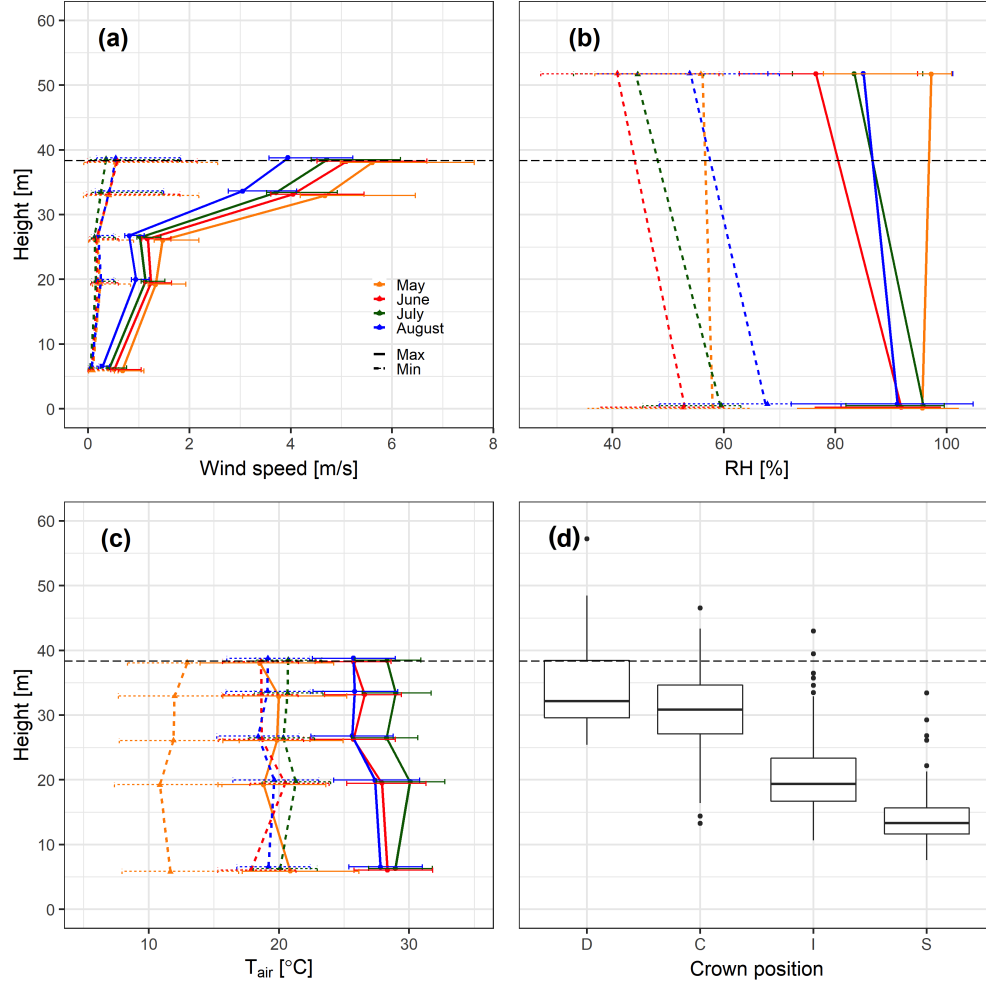


**Figure 1. Climate and species-level growth responses over our study period, highlighting the three focal droughts (a) and community-wide responses** Time series plot (a) shows peak growing season (May–August) climate conditions and residual chronologies for each species (see Table 3 for codes). PET and PRE data were obtained from the Climatic Research Unit high-resolution gridded dataset (CRU TS v.4.01; Harris et al. 2014). Focal droughts are indicated by dashed lines, and shading indicates the pre-drought period used in calculations of the resistance metric. Figure modified from Helcoski *et al.* (2019). Density plots (b) show the distribution of resistance values for each drought.



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**Figure 3. Height profiles in growing season climatic conditions and tree heights by crown position** The top row shows averages ( $\pm$  SD) of daily maxima and minima of (a) wind speed, (b) relative humidity ( $RH$ ), and (c) air temperature ( $T_{air}$ ) averaged over each month of the peak growing season (May-August) from 2016-2018. In these plots, heights are slightly offset for visualization purposes. Also shown is (d) 2018 tree heights by canopy position (see Table 2 for codes). In all plots, the dashed horizontal line indicates the 95th percentile of tree heights in the ForestGEO plot.